

Appl. No. 10/604,408
Amdt. dated January 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of December 02, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Rejection of claims 1, 4, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e):

5 Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Tsujiguchi (US 6,791,434) for reasons of record, as recited on pages 2-3 of the above-indicated Office action.

Response:

10 The applicant would like to point out the differences between the Tsujiguchi patent and claim 1 of the instant application. Claim 1 is directed towards a lowpass filter formed in a **multi-layered substrate** as illustrated in Figs. 7, 9, and 10 of the instant application. Tsujiguchi does not teach using a multi-layer circuit in Fig. 21 and Fig. 22, or in the disclosure corresponding to these figures. Fig. 21 illustrates a 15 uniplanar circuit, not a multi-layer circuit as recited in claim 1 of the instant application.

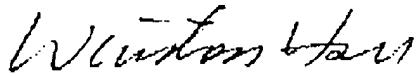
20 Furthermore, claim 1 contains the limitation of a **mutually coupled coils (MCCs)** structure comprising three coils. As shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 9, the inductor coils are located in close proximity to each other in vertically stacked layers to take advantage of mutual coupling between the coils. The mutual coupling between these inductors adds to the total inductance achieved and enables smaller inductors to be used, thereby reducing the total size of the circuitry. On the other hand, Tsujiguchi does not 25 teach or suggest a MCCs structure. In fact, by utilizing Tsujiguchi's uniplanar circuit, it is difficult to achieve strong mutual coupling through horizontal coupling.

Therefore, since Tsujiguchi does not teach or suggest a lowpass filter formed in

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a multi-layer substrate and does not teach a MCCs structure, Tsujiguchi does not anticipate claim 1 of the instant application. Claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-7 is
5 requested. In light of the above reasons, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

10 Respectfully submitted,



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Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526
P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.
15 Voice Mail: 302-729-1562
Facsimile: 806-498-6673
e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

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